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# Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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O R 202030Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6653
INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 2193

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY), BR, US
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT: DR. BRZEZINSKI WISH TO VISIT BRASILIA UNIVERSITY

REF: BRASILIA 2026

1. IN CONSIDERING ARRANGEMENTS FOR DR. BRZEZINSKI'S MEETING WITH UNIVERSITY OF BRASILIA (UNB) RECTOR AND MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF, ESPECIALLY QUESTION OF SITE, IT SHOULD BE KEPT IN MIND A) THAT AT LEAST SOME UNB STUDENTS PLAN TO PARTICIPATE IN NATIONWIDE MARCH 28 STUDENT "DAY OF PROTEST" COMMEMORATING 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF DEATH OF STUDENT IN CLASHES WITH SECURITY FORCES DURING DEMONSTRATION IN RIO DE JANEIRO IN 1968. ACCORDING TO ONE REPORT, COMMEMORATION WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY WEEK-LONG POLITICAL ACTIVITY OF UNSPECIFIED NATURE ON CAMPUS; B) ACCORDING TO A UNB SOURCE, SOME STUDENTS HAVE ALSO AGREED TO HOLD A ONE-DAY EVENT ON MARCH 29 IN PROTEST OF PRESIDENT'S VISIT AND "THE HUMAN RIGHTS FARCE". SOURCE ALSO REPORTED STUDENTS PLAN
TO WRITE A LETTER TO BE DELIVERED TO THE PRESIDENT.

3. IF STUDENT ACTIVITY DOES TAKE PLACE ON THE UNB CAMPUS IMMEDIATELY BEFORE OR DURING THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT, THERE IS ALWAYS THE RISK, OF
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COURSE, THAT SECURITY FORCES MAY BECOME INVOLVED, INCLUDING THE POSSIBILITY OF CLASHES WITH STUDENTS. WERE THIS TO OCCUR, WASHINGTON MIGHT BEAR IN MIND THAT A MEETING WITH RECTOR AZEVEDO BY ANYONE IN THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICIAL PARTY WOULD TEND TO IDENTIFY THE INTERLOCUTOR
WITH THE HARDLINE RESPONSE TO STUDENT ACTIVITY THAT HAS MADE THE RECTOR A CONTROVERSIAL FIGURE IN STUDENT, ACADEMIC, INTELLECTUAL AND

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POLITICAL CIRCLES SINCE HIS REQUEST FOR TROOPS TO OCCUPY
THE CAMPUS IN RESPONSE TO STUDENT ACTIVITY AROUND THE TIME OF
MRS. CARTER'S VISIT TO BRASILIA LAST YEAR.

4. MOREOVER, THE GOVERNMENT ON MARCH 16 REQUESTED INDICTMENTS UNDER
THE NATIONAL SECURITY LAW (LSN) AGAINST TEN STUDENTS FOR THEIR
PARTICIPATION IN THE UNB STRIKE AND PROTEST ACTIVITIES LAST YEAR.
A MILITARY COURT IS CURRENTLY EXAMINING THE FINDINGS OF A POLICE
INQUIRY INTO THESE ACTIVITIES IN ORDER TO DETERMINE WHETTHER IT WILL
HEAR THE CASE OR NOT. SHOULD THE COURT DECIDE TO HEAR THE CASE--A
DECISION IS EXPECTED WITHIN THE NEXT WEEK--THE STUDENTS, IF FOUND
GUILTY, WOULD FACE PRISON SENTENCES OF FROM ONE TO FIVE YEARS.

5. IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE, DR. BRZEZINSKI MIGHT WISH TO CONSIDER
INSTEAD A FOLLOW-ON MEETING WITHGENERAL GOLBERY AFTER GEISEL'S
WORKING DINNER (GOLBERY HAS NOT BEEN MENTIOED AS A PARTICIPANT IN
EITHER BILATERAL.) PLEASE ADVISE IF WE SHOULD EXPLORE THIS
ALTERNATIVE.
JOHNSON

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